

3400 Forest Pest Management

June 8, 1981

Annual Progress Report: Effect of Precommercial
Thinning in Armillaria-infected Douglas-fir Plantations
on the Blue River RD, Willamette NF

Forest Supervisor, Willamette NF

In May 1978, ten 1/4-acre plots were established on the Blue River Ranger District, Willamette NF, to monitor the effects of precommercial thinning in 10- to 20-year-old Douglas-fir plantations infected by Armillaria root rot. The ten plots are located in two units: H-321 (T. 18 S., R. 5 E., Sec. 9) and H-602 (T. 13 S., R. 5 E., Sec. 17).

Three years following installation, 19 of 389 (4.9%) crop trees in thinned plots were killed (13 by Armillaria, 4 by black stain root disease, 1 by both Armillaria and black stain, and 1 by deer). In plots left unthinned, 9 out of 380 (2.4%) crop trees were killed (7 by Armillaria, 2 by black stain). One tree marked as killed by Armillaria in 1978 is alive and apparently showing some resistance to infection. It is still premature to draw any conclusions from these data, and only after several years will the data be of value. In the interim, annual progress reports will be submitted by FPM.

James S. Hadfield

JAMES S. HADFIELD, Acting Director
Forest Pest Management

cc: Ted Paulson, Willamette NF SO
Jim Bopes, Blue River RD

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